



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 24, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS:

Georgia Hanigan, Commissioner, Payette County – present
Lyndon Haines, Commissioner, Washington County – present
Keri Smith, Commissioner, Canyon County – not present
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County – present
Sam Summers, MD, Physician Representative – present
Bryan Elliott, Commissioner, Gem County – present

STAFF MEMBERS:

In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Williams, Lekshmi Rita Venugopal, Emily Geary, Adriana French, Patty Kennings

Via Zoom: Troy Cunningham, Rachel Pollreis, Ashley Anderson, Doug Doney, Juanita Aguilar, Jaime Aanensen

GUESTS:

In person: Judge Gene Petty

Live Stream: Guests viewed the live stream via SWDH You Tube page

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Bryan Elliott called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting attendees participated in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Aberasturi – present; Dr. Summers – present; Chairman Elliott – present; Commissioner Hanigan – present; Commissioner Purdy – present; Commissioner Haines – present; Commissioner Smith – not present

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS; APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Haines made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 27, 2021

MOTION: Commissioner Haines made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2021 Board of Health meeting as presented. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public provided in-person public comment.

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OPEN DISCUSSION

Nikki clarified that Lekshmi Rita Venugopal is providing recommendations based on the most current guidance or research that we have available pertaining to COVID-19. Some of this guidance comes from Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Division of Licensing and Certification.

Nikki also clarified that Southwest District Health (SWDH) staff will not issue requirements to schools and cannot close schools. Staff are not advocating for specific treatment for COVID-19 infections and refer the public to their healthcare provider for treatment decisions.

CONGREGATE SETTINGS PRESENTATION

Nikki Zogg presented information regarding congregate settings which include correctional facilities, boarding schools, colleges, universities, assisted living facilities, and skilled nursing facilities.

Board members asked for information regarding the PCR testing threshold. Nikki will gather information and email to Board members.

IDAHO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

Gene Petty, Third District Judge, has been participating on the Governor-appointed Idaho Behavioral Health Council. Judge Petty attended the meeting to provide information on the strategic plan that the Council developed and how it might impact District 3. The goal of the Council is to improve the behavioral health system in the state and help remove silos to create a cohesive organization that works together. The Legislature and the Supreme Court supported the development of the strategic plan. The Council worked to prioritize nine recommendations from the approximately 100 recommendations generated by the Council's workgroups.

YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRENDS

Rachel Pollreis, Data Analyst, Senior, presented data on the impact of the pandemic on mental health. Nikki shared plans to begin to meet with SWDH staff and local officials to identify and address gaps and needs in the area of youth behavioral health services across the region.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Division administrators introduced new employees.

JULY 2021 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORTS

Troy Cunningham, Financial Manager, presented the July 2021 Expenditure and Revenue Report.

VEHICLE FLEET PURCHASING vs. LEASING

Troy Cunningham explained purchasing and leasing options for the vehicle fleet. There is potential for a combined request for proposal (RFP) with several other health districts. Troy also visited with the City of Nampa Fleet Manager regarding their RFP process.

Troy asked board members if they have fleet managers or points of contact for their county vehicle resources.

CLINIC FEE SCHEDULE CHANGE APPROVAL

Juanita Aguilar presented a request to add a sports physical fee of \$25 flat rate to the clinic fee schedule.

MOTION: Dr. Summers made a motion to approve the addition of the \$25 flat rate sports physical fee to the clinic fee schedule. Commissioner Haines seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

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HOME VISITING PROGRAMS UPDATE

Patty Kennings, Parents as Teachers (PAT) Program Manager, and Adriana French, Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) Program Manager, provided board members with an overview and update on the Parents as Teachers and Nurse Family Partnership home visiting programs. Nikki commented that there is a lot of research into these programs showing positive outcomes for enrolled families during and following their participation. The programs reduce adverse childhood experiences and increase high school graduation rates and other success indicators.

EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION UPDATE AND DECISION

At the Board of Health meeting held July 27, 2021, Board members approved the request to reallocate a combination of unused committed funds and remaining funds from Fiscal Year 2021 to be used in part for personnel cost-of-living adjustments and merit increases. Following this approval, Nikki submitted a request to Division of Human Resources (DHR) for approval of a 3% cost-of-living adjustment and a 2% additional merit-based increase for SWDH staff. The request was not approved due to DHR having no mechanism for the use of a cost-of-living adjustment.

The SWDH Finance and Human Resources Teams have worked with DHR to present a proposal that DHR can accept. The DHR point of contact suggested that instead of a cost-of-living adjustment and a merit-based increase that Nikki submit a request for just a merit-based increase. Based on this suggestion, Nikki presented a request to Board members to approve a 4.15% to 5% merit-based increase to be implemented on the pay date of October 1, 2021 for anyone hired before July 1, 2021 and currently employed.

MOTION: Commissioner Haines made a motion to approve the requested employee performance merit-based increase of 4.15 to 5% to be implemented on the pay date of October 1, 2021. Commissioner Hanigan seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Ashley Anderson, SWDH Public Information Officer, provided a brief overview of recent updates and additions to the Southwest District Health website available at phd3.idaho.gov.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

House Bill 316 Update

Nikki provided an overview of the recent meetings with the public health district directors and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), Division of Human Resources (DHR), Office of Group Insurance (OGI) and the State Controller's Office (SCO) a few weeks ago to discuss the impacts of House Bill 316 as well as interpretations from their respective legal counsels. Efforts to remove delegated authority are being drafted in MOUs and statute, where applicable, and the goal is to have these agreements and statute changes in place by March 1, 2022.

Nikki explained some challenges with defining SWDH's relationship with DHR. Most of the public health districts are in agreement to separate themselves from DHR.

The meeting with OGI went well and OGI foresees no changes to benefits for staff employed by SWDH.

Behavioral Health Board Update

Nikki explained that discussions with the Behavioral Health Board (BHB) as to the nature of the contract between DHW and SWDH continue. Nikki had conversations with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the BHB. At the most recent meeting, Nikki presented the BHB Executive Committee leadership with expectations to outline the relationship between SWDH and the BHB should SWDH opt to remain in the contract. Nikki is anticipating receiving expectations from BHB that outline their needs of SWDH soon.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nikole Zogg".

Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bryan Elliott".

Bryan Elliott
Chairman

Dated: September 21, 2021